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## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(21)Application number : 2001-104687 (71)Applicant : INTERNATL BUSINESS MACH CORP <IBM>  
 (22)Date of filing : 03.04.2001 (72)Inventor : CALVIGNAC JEAN LOUIS  
 HEDDES MARCO C  
 JEFFERIES CLARK DEBUS  
 PATEL PIYUSH CHUNILAL  
 RINALDI MARK ANTHONY

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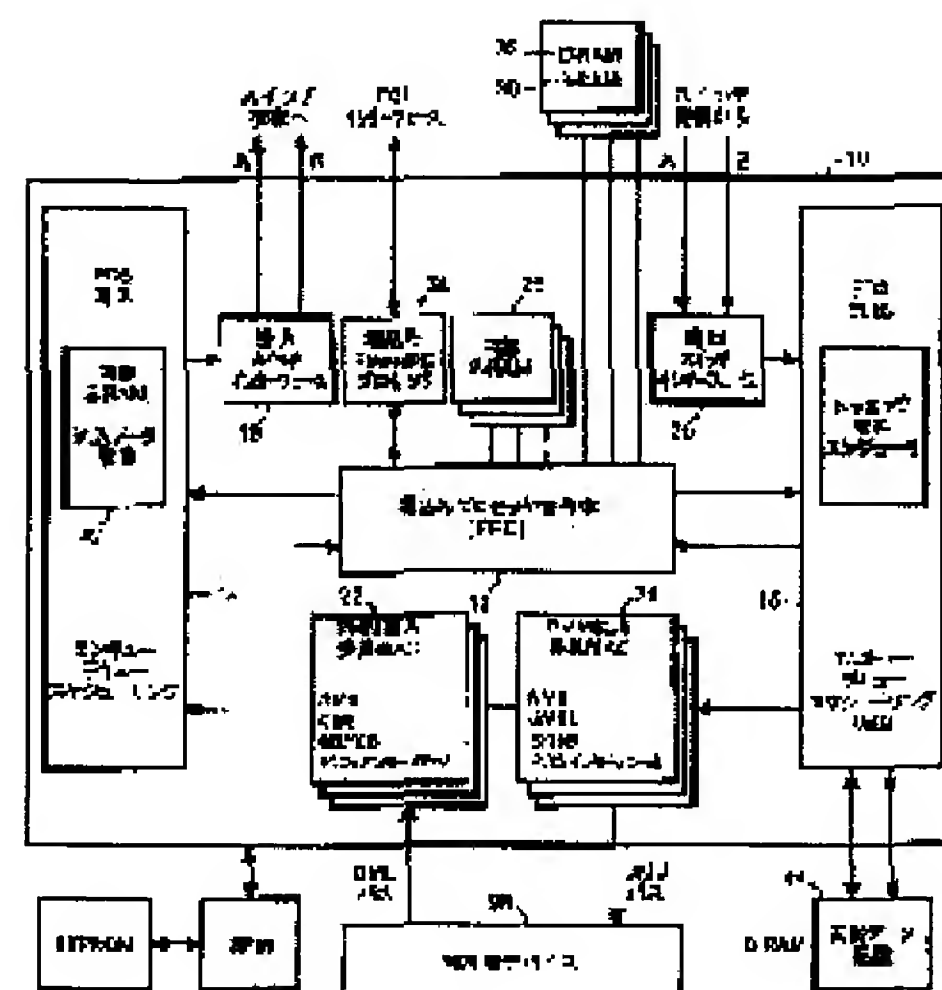
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## (54) PATTERN RANGE COMPARISON IMPLEMENTING METHOD, COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIUM, AND DEVICE

## (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a new data structure, a method, and a device for a software management tree(SMT) which provide a control point processor.

SOLUTION: This retrieving mechanism reduces the storage space of a node by using only a forward pointer together with a next bit or bit group to be tested next. Multiple retrieval is unnecessary and filter rules for an application are processed to make it possible to connect various filter rules. Two patterns of the same length are stored in respective leaves to define range comparison. Final comparing operation is comparison within a range or comparison below a mask. Through the comparison within the range, it is decided whether or not an input key is within the range defined by the two patterns. Through the comparison below the mask, various bits in the input key are compared with various bits in a 1st leaf pattern under the mask specified with the 2nd leaf pattern.



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